

ANTHONY CARLTON COOKE

ARTIST STATEMENT

My art concerns nature, the environment, the juxtaposition of beauty and unease, and psychological and physical transformation. It is characterized by an emphasis on line, shape and pattern, all of which reappear as different forms throughout a piece or a series of works, attesting to the symbiotic relationship between individuality and interconnectedness.

Although drawn from nature, my subjects are stylized and symbolic, and as such exist in psychological spaces rather than physical locations. Since I am also preoccupied with philosophical and psychological topics, after some experimentation I embraced a mixed media practice because it comes closest to a material articulation of the ideas shaping my work.

My influences also cross disciplinary boundaries. Illustration, still life, printmaking, emblem books, illuminated manuscripts, scientific art, poetry, film and drama, even word puzzles, all contribute to the formation and evolution of his artistic practice.

I work on paper because it promotes an intimate relationship with my materials, a connection and sense of discovery I want to pass on to the viewer.